of such products at reasonable rates which alone would enable the poorer sections of the society to purchase and consume them. The said Report has been laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 28.10.1999.

(c) The Report has been forwarded to the Ministry of Commerce, being the administrative Ministry concerned, for consideration of the recommendations contained therein.

Law Commission's Suggestion for Five Year term for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies

176. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission, in its 170th report has suggested an amendment of the Constitution to provide for a fixed five year term for the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) by when necessary legislation is likely to be brought in Parliament; and

(d) whether the new points of the main political parties and the Election Commission in the matter would be ascertained in the first instance, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The issue being sensitive, will require deliberations/ consultations with political parties, Election Commission and other experts. No time-frame in this respect can be predicted.

Introduction of Competition Law

177. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to introduce a competition law to regulate mergers and acquisitions in the consumers' interest; and

(b) if not, what is the plan of Government to save the interest of the consumers?